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MIRFIELD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Sanitary Inspector

For the Year

= 1939 =

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



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Mirfield Urban District Council

List of Members

Chairman: Major W. J. M. SPROULLE, M.C., J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor P. Stead

Councillor	C. E. Sutcliffe, J.P.	Councillor	J. Jackson, J.P.
"	C. W. Thornton	"	C. Walker
"	Col. J. Walker, D.S.O., J.P.	"	H. Lockwood
"	W. Benn	"	S. Fretwell
"	M. Day	"	J. H. Barraclough

THE HOUSING AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

consists of the whole of the Council

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Major W. J. M. SPROULLE, M.C., J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor W. Benn

Councillor	C. Walker	Councillor	J. H. Barraclough
"	J. Jackson, J.P.	"	H. Lockwood
"	M. Day	"	P. Stead

Councillor S. Fretwell

OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Clerk: Mr. F. L. Parker

Treasurer: Mr. H. Glendinning

Surveyor: Mr. H. L. Trees

Medical Officer: Dr. J. A. Smith, M.C., M.B., Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector: Mr. W. E. Sharp, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Chief Rating and Valuation Officer: Mr. A. E. Ledgard

Collector: Mr. E. R. Brearley

Electrical Engineer: Mr. T. Gerrard

Fire Superintendent: Mr. J. T. Harrison

Parks Superintendent: Mr. H. W. Hunter

THE LIVERSEDGE AND MIRFIELD JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

Councillor W. Benn

Councillor C. W. Thornton

" J. Jackson

P. Stead

Major W. J. M. Sproulle, M.C., J.P.

CLERK

J. Fawcett, King Street, Mirfield

MEDICAL OFFICERS

Drs. Pick and Smith

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health for Mirfield

*Messrs. The Chairman and Members of
the Mirfield Urban District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of Mirfield Urban District for the year 1939.

This report is in accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Health contained in Circular 1961, and contains information under the following heads:—

- Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area
- General Provisions of Health Services in the Area
- Sanitary Circumstances of the Area
- Inspection and Supervision of Food
- Prevalence and Control over Infectious and other Diseases

I desire to express my thanks to Mr. W. E. Sharp, Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent, for his able assistance during the year and for drawing up certain portions of this report.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES A. SMITH

Vital Statistics.

Area: (in acres) 3,394.

POPULATION: Census 1931—12,099.

Estimated mid-year 1939—11,870.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (end of 1939): 4,150 approx.

NUMBER OF FAMILIES OR SEPARATE OCCUPIERS: 4,200 approx.

RATEABLE VALUE: £53,668.

SUM PRODUCED BY PENNY RATE: £223.

LIVE BIRTHS:—

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate Children	71	48	119
Illegitimate ,,	1	1	2
Total Births	72	49	121

BIRTH RATE—(per thousand of estimated population) 10.19

STILL BIRTHS:— Males Females Total
4 4 8

RATE—(per thousand total births): 66.11

DEATHS:— Males Females Total
81 83 164

DEATH RATE—(per thousand of estimated population)—13.82

MATERNAL MORTALITY:—

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth during 1939 from:—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	Nil

RATE—(per thousand total births) Nil

INFANTILE MORTALITY:—

Number of deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:—

Legitimate	...	...	7
Illegitimate	...	...	0
			—
	Total	...	7
			—

The deaths under one year of age were from the undermentioned causes:—

Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Debility and					
Premature Births	...	...	...	5	—
	Total	...	7		—

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE:—

All infants per 1,000 live births: 57.85

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births: 58.82

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births: Nil

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The social conditions pertaining in Mirfield have improved very considerably during 1939, notably in connection with overcrowding and Housing, but the involvement of our country in war with Germany in early September has prevented the completion of our three years housing scheme which otherwise would have been finished by the end of the year. As it is, there are 24 houses still to be built but the Minister of Health has granted an extension of time for this work until conditions are more propitious. With our country at war many districts throughout the land were early declared "Dangerous Areas" and populous districts were denuded of many of their inhabitants, mostly women and children, who were sent to live in other districts deemed to be less dangerous. These were labelled Reception Areas. Mirfield however remains a Neutral Area so that the population kept at much the same level, until of course, the calling up for service with the Forces of many of our younger male adults made the inevitable difference to our numbers.

One of the worst features of our social conditions has been overcrowding, but after a comprehensive survey this trouble was tackled very thoroughly, and is now literally non-existent. In our district the various A.R.P. services were soon capably manned and in fair working order. Time and practice have brought I think, all our services to a fine state of efficiency including a well-equipped First Aid Post at Hopton School which is well staffed by competent and enthusiastic volunteers and a few paid workers.

Comment on other services which would naturally come under review in this report such as a Maternity Home, Swimming Bath, Gymnasium, Water Supply, Schools, etc., must stand over as all Medical Officers have been asked to make this interim report as short as possible.

Vital Statistics.

POPULATION.

The estimate of Resident Population for Mid-Year 1939 is 11,870. This is the figure sent out from the office of the Registrar General at Somerset House. For the previous year the figure was 11,920.

BIRTHS.

121 births were registered in 1939, 25 less than in the previous year.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered was 164; 81 being males and 83 females.

	Average for 5 years	Year 1939
INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE 49.48		57.85

(Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births)

DIARRHOEA	Nil
(Deaths in children under 2 years per 1,000 births).	

MATERNAL DEATHS DUE TO, AND ACCIDENTS OF CHILDBIRTH (Rate per 1,000 births)	Average for 5 years	Year 1939
--	---------------------	-----------

Puerperal Sepsis	2.27	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes	2.64	Nil

TABLES SUMMARISING THE VITAL STATISTICS.

	Average for 5 years			Year 1939
BIRTH RATE	13.13	10.19
Average for 5 years			Year 1939	
DEATH RATE				
From all causes	14.31	13.82
Zymotic Diseases	0.5	2.53
Respiratory Tuberculosis i.e., Phthisis	0.27	5.89
Tuberculosis—all other forms	...	1.13		Nil
Cancer and Malignant Diseases		1.71		1.43
Heart Diseases	4.49	3.96

The above rates are per 1,000 estimated population.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS.

	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935
Birth rate	10.19	12.25	11.96	12.2	14.36
Death rate	13.82	14.26	14.83	15.08	12.57
Zymotic disease	2.53	0.55	0.84	0.25	0.42
Phthisis	5.89	0.27	0.00	0.59	0.17
Other Respira'y disease	2.53	0.84	1.01	1.36	0.59
Infantile mortality	57.58	41.1	49.3	49.0	41.0

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Ings Grove.

Fridays 2 to 4 p.m. Provided by the W.R.C.C.

Day Nurseries—None.

School Clinic: Ings Grove. Mondays and Fridays 9 to 12.
W.R.C.C.

Tuberculosis: Huddersfield T.B. Dispensary.

Tuesdays 2 p.m. W.R.C.C.

Venereal Disease: Dewsbury Infirmary. Mondays 3 p.m.
Thursdays 7 p.m. Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. Men:
Tuesdays 6 to 8 p.m. Thursdays 7 to 9 p.m. Women
and children: Mondays 7 to 9 p.m.; Fridays 6 to 8 p.m.

Dental and Ophthalmic Clinics are held as required at Ings
Grove. W.R.C.C.

NURSING.

The work of the District Nursing Association has been carried out by Nurses Lodge, Givens and Latimer, who are all fully trained and qualified nurses, and each is a qualified midwife.

MIDWIVES.

Mrs. J. Abbot, 42 Old Bank, Greenside
 Misses Givens, Latimer and Lodge, District Nurses,
 Knowle Road.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY and SANATORIA.

These are in the hands of the West Riding County Council.

A dispensary is provided at 1 Peel Street, Huddersfield, which is too far from Mirfield.

Cases requiring institutional treatment are sent to one or other of these County Sanatoria, but provision must be still inadequate, since some patients experience long waits as a rule before a place is found for them at any of the following institutions: Middleton in Wharfedale, Ilkley; Morton Banks, Keighley; Dean Head, Horsforth; Cardigan Carr Gate, near Wakefield; Hearn Hall, Stanhope, Wakefield; High Wood Hospital for Children, Brentwood, Essex.

CROSSLEY FEVER HOSPITAL.

Mirfield U.D.C. is a constituent member of the Liversedge and Mirfield Joint Hospital Board, and accommodation is reserved for infectious diseases at the Joint Hospital at Mirfield.

The hospital meets the requirements of the districts conveniently and efficiently. It is well situated, soundly governed, and efficiently yet economically managed and staffed, and fulfils its functions admirably.

It has accommodation for 38 beds, including the observation block, but heretofore it has frequently accommodated conveniently and quite effectively considerably more than this number. During the year the following cases were admitted from Mirfield:—

Scarlet Fever	...	5
Diphtheria	...	4

The hospital is available for admission of the following diseases:—Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid (Enteric) and Paratyphoid and Erysipelas, and if accommodation warrants it, also Puerperal Fever and Encephalitis.

**A Table showing the Causes of Death during 1939
in the Mirfield Urban District.**

Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Influenza	—	2	2
Encephalitis	—	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System...	4	3	7
Other Tuberculosis Diseases.....	—	—	—
Syphilis	—	—	—
General Paralysis of Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	—	—	—
Cancer, Malignant Disease.....	8	9	17
Diabetes	2	2	4
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.....	12	14	26
Heart Disease	19	28	47
Aneurysm	1	—	1
Other Circulatory Disease.....	7	3	10
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Pneumonia (all forms).....	4	1	5
Other Respiratory Diseases.....	—	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	—	—	—
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years).....	—	—	—
Appendicitis	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver.....	—	—	—
Other Disease of Liver.....	—	—	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis.....	7	4	11
Other Digestive Diseases.....	2	—	2
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.	4	2	6
Senility	1	4	5
Suicide	2	—	2
Other Violence	4	5	9
Other Defined Diseases.....	3	3	6
Causes Ill-defined or unknown.....	—	—	—
TOTAL All Causes	81	83	164

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases during 1939 in the Mirfield Urban District.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 Year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 and under 10	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 and under 15	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 and under 20	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
20 and under 25	...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
25 and under 35	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 and under 45	...	2	1	—	—	1	1	—
45 and under 55	...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
55 and under 65	...	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
65 and upwards	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	..	6	2	—	—	4	3	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASE INCIDENCE.

Disease	Hopton	Battyeford	Eastthorpe	Northorpe	Total
Scarlet	—	4	—	1	5
Diphtheria	1	2	—	1	4
Pneumonia	2	1	1	—	4
Erysipelas	—	2	—	—	2
Measles	1	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	3	3
Total	4	9	1	5	19

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Cases notified during 1939.

Notified	Cases.		Vision un- impaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths				
	Treated.									
	At home	In hospital								
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil				

Notification of Infectious Disease Cases during 1939.
 (Not including Tuberculosis, for which see separate table),

Disease.	Under 1 year	All Ages										Removals to Hospital			Total Deaths		
		1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	Removals to Hospital	Total Deaths			
Small-pox	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	—	
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
(including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTAL	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	4	1	1	1	15	9	5

STATEMENT OF NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES RECORDED DURING THE YEAR 1939.

Sanitary District—Mirfield U.D.

* Not notifiable in Mirfield U.D.

Table showing causes and age distribution

CAUSES OF DEATH	AGE				PER CENT
	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and over	
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Influenza	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	—	—	—	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	—	—	—
Syphilis	—	—	—	—
General Paralysis of Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	—	—	—	—
Cancer, Malignant Disease	—	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	—	—	—
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	—	—	—	—
Heart Disease	—	—	—	—
Aneurysm...	...	—	—	—	—
Other Circulatory Diseases	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms)...	...	—	1	—	—
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	—	—	—
Peptic Ulcer	—	—	—	—
Diarrhoea, etc., (under 2 yrs.)	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Liver	—	—	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	—	—	—	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	—	—	—	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Births, Malformations, etc...	...	—	6	—	—
Senility	—	—	—	—
Suicide	—	—	—	—
Other Violence	—	—	1	—
Other Defined Diseases	—	—	—	2
Causes ill-defined or unknown	—	—	—	—
ALL CAUSES ...	7	1	1	3	—

the nett deaths occurring in 1939

Age at Death

SMALL-POX HOSPITAL.

This is part of the Crossley Hospital and consists of a separate block on the North side, well removed from the other fever block. There are two large wards, two observation wards, which meet the requirements of the district. No cases were admitted from Mirfield during 1939.

DIPHTHERIA ANTI-TOXIN.

Good use continues to be made of the serum which is available for any definite or suspected case of diphtheria in our district.

GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The Mirfield Memorial Hospital is a great asset in a community like ours, and good use is made of the 16 beds available. In addition there are 2 cots for children. This is not nearly enough and I consider the hospital is in need of a separate ward for children only. This would be a great boon. Considerable use too is made of the facilities at the Infirmarys and Hospitals at Leeds, Bradford, Huddersfield and Dewsbury.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Infectious Cases: Two Motor Ambulances are available, one for ordinary infectious diseases and a separate vehicle for small-pox cases only.

Accidents and non-infectious diseases: Two Motor Ambulances are available:—The Ravensthorpe Motor Ambulance and the Mirfield Motor Ambulance. These fill the requirements of the district very effectively.

Telephone numbers are Dewsbury 291, Mirfield 2333. Both Ambulances available in Mirfield at the same charges.

ACTS AND ORDERS IN FORCE.

The following are in force in the district:—

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.

Part III with the exception of those sections repealed by the Public Health Act, 1936.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1907.

Part II repealed in the Public Health Act, 1936.

Public Health Act, 1925.

Part II. Sections 13-19 inclusive. Sections 21-23 inclusive.
Section 35.

Public Health Clean Meat Regulations.

BYELAWS IN FORCE.

Cleansing of Footways	...	...	...	...	1874
Scavenging	...	...	...	...	1874
Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	...	1932
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	1922
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	1929
New Street and Buildings	...	...	...	...	1938

SCAVENGING.

Conversions to water carriage system continue to make headway, and all round, the condition of the district is much improved. Details of conversions and improvements will be found in the part of the Report dealt with by the Sanitary Inspector.

SCHOOLS.

There is nothing to add to or detract from observations in previous reports. Hopton Council School continues to be the only really satisfactory Elementary School Building in the district.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

War conditions have brought about one great and welcome change in the matter of slaughterhouses.

All slaughtering of cattle, sheep, pigs, etc. is now carried out at a central abattoir in Spennborough and the carcasses distributed from there. This does away with the obnoxious system of private slaughterhouses which has been in existence here and the need for local supervision of this hole and corner system eliminated.

MILK SUPPLY.

This is very satisfactory and continues to improve. In nearly every case where samples of milk were taken and examined, these proved satisfactory under test.

URBAN DISTRICT OF MIRFIELD

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Sanitary Inspector & Cleansing Superintendent

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Mirfield Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present for your consideration my eleventh Annual Report of the sanitary conditions appertaining to your district at the end of the year 1939; that part relating to the cleansing department extending to the end of the financial year, that is to March 31st, 1940.

Owing to the outbreak of war housing activities ceased, therefore the further programme of unfit houses already prepared had to be suspended for the time being. The Ministry of Health allowed for the completion of existing houses in the scheme already approved, and these will be completed before the end of 1940. The Greenside Estate will then be fully occupied, completing the whole of the building operations undertaken by the Council. Several back to back houses have been made into through houses and more would have been done but for the scarcity of, and increased cost of, materials. All vacated houses which can be made habitable temporarily in emergency are being retained for that purpose. Overcrowding figures show a very large decrease owing to members of the family joining the Forces, and removals into the houses provided under the Housing Act 1936.

The Scavenging Costings have increased during the year owing to the increases in Petrol, Oil and Wages. The two wagons are giving every satisfaction and are actively engaged, in addition to their ordinary work, on salvage.

The light wagon has now been taken over by the High-ways Department and is giving good service.

All the refuse is now being deposited in Messrs. Garforths' Quarry, free of charge.

In conclusion, my thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Sanitary Sub-Committee, for their whole-hearted support and interest in all matters relating to the work of the department; also to all officials of the Council, for their valuable assistance which has been greatly appreciated.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. E. SHARP

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(i) WATER.

The district receives the bulk of its water supply from the Huddersfield Corporation. The supply is constant and direct to the houses.

In addition to the above there are 8 shallow wells, 4 springs and one private reservoir, supplying 57 houses. On this latter means of supply 51 houses are solely dependent and 6 houses are partly dependent. During the year 5 wells have been closed and Huddersfield Corporation water has been laid on. Samples of household water have also been taken by the West Riding County Council.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Except in isolated cases the district is well provided with sewers. No other extension has been made during the year. The Wellhouse Building Site has now been completed and it will now be possible to sewer a greater part of Crossley Lane. Provision for this has already been made.

Plans for a scheme of sewage disposal have been submitted to the Ministry of Health for the combined treatment of both domestic and trade waste on model lines, and is still under consideration.

(iii) RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The River Calder runs through the district and is in a polluted state when it enters the district. Any pollution from domestic sewage is very small and is from isolated houses only. The manufacturers treat their own trade waste and discharge their effluent into the river, which is under the supervision of the West Riding Rivers Board.

(iv) SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

Closet accommodation, December 31st, 1939:—

Number of Privies.....	298
,, Privy Ashpits	171
,, Dry Ashpits	27
,, Dust Bins	3579
,, Water Closets	3789
,, Waste Water Closets	66
,, Pail or Tub Closets....	36
,, Privies discontinued ..	24

Number of Water Closets provided during the year is as follows:—

By conversion of privies to water closets	24
By provision of extra closet accommodation to existing property where insufficient	11
By provision to new property.....	99
By conversion of Waste water closets to W.C.	6
By conversion of tub closets to chemical closets	1
	<hr/>
Total ...	141
	<hr/>

	Privies	W.C.	W.C.	Closets Waste	Bins Tub
Eastthorpe Ward ...	44	995	20	0	943
Hopton Ward ...	68	575.	32	24	692
Battyeford Ward ...	106	1140	14	10	947
Northorpe Ward ...	80	1013	0	2	997
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ...	298	3723	66	36	3579

Number of Privies, Tipplers and Tub Closets converted or abolished during recent years:— 1931—59; 1932—58, 1933—47; 1934—83; 1935—52; 1936—72; 1937—42; 1938—79; 1939—54.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Total number of Inspections.....	5279
Complaints investigated	45
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops.....	376
Canal Boats	13
Dwelling Houses—Housing Act	
Public Health Act.....	269
Infectious Diseases	10
Drains Inspected and Approved.....	74
Factories and Workshops.....	146
Property under Notice.....	867
Works in Progress.....	506
Schools	10
Slaughterhouses, Markets and Shops.....	1754
Infectious Disease Contacts.....	0
Van Dwellings	28
Offensive Trades	26
Bakehouses	16
Premises where nuisances were found.....	129
Entertainment Houses	12
Refuse Tips	98
Smoke Observations	45
Miscellaneous Visits	891

NOTICES SERVED.

Legal Notices issued.....	10
Complied with	10
Letter or Informal Notices.....	360
Owners seen personally.....	25
Summons taken out.....	0

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Drains re-constructed	17
Drains connected to main sewers.....	7
Drains not efficiently trapped.....	0
Sink Pipes and Drains repaired.....	24
Yard Drains cleared.....	22
Drains Ventilated	4
Cellar Drains cleared.....	0
Eaves and Fall Pipes provided.....	13
Roofing	13
Water Closets repaired.....	18
Defective Wallplaster repaired.....	13
Waste Pipes to disconnect.....	21
Water in Cellars.....	1
Smoke Nuisances	12
Poultry, Pigeons and Animals.....	1
Offensive Accumulations	0
Wet Ashpits abolished.....	23
Privies abolished	24
Privies converted	24
Dry Ashpits abolished.....	0
Dust Bins additional to new property.....	92
Insufficient ashes accommodation and closet accommodation	48
Overcrowding abated	
Houses requiring cleansing.....	2
Additional Lighting and Ventilation to houses.....	43
Dampness remedied	20
Workshops limewashed	0
Bakehouses limewashed	0
Street Gullies cleansed.....	0
 Number of Nuisances found in 1939 ...	289
Number of Nuisances in hand from 1938 ...	21
Total requiring abatement	310
Total number abated	307
In hand (end of 1939)	3

SHOPS ACT 1934.

A systematic inspection is being carried out in conjunction with the Shops Inspector of the West Riding County Council. During the year 57 visits have been paid to shops in the district.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Forty-five smoke observations were taken during the year and in twelve cases offences were found to have been committed. The firms involved were communicated with and further observations proved negative.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of Council Houses found to be infested	2
Number disinfested	2
Other Houses found to be infested	...
Number disinfested	...

Vermicine and Sulphur are employed for the disinfestation of individual houses by the Local Authority.

In the persons removed from condemned houses the disinfestation is carried out by Yorkshire Fumigation Services Ltd., Rods Mills, Morley, by Hydrocyanic Acid Gas. All bedding is dealt with by steam disinfestation.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

All premises and occupations within the district which can be controlled by the bye-laws are already so controlled. There are no lodging houses or underground sleeping rooms, and only occasionally do we get van-dwellings in the district.

SCHOOLS.

Upper Hopton Church	...	1	Boys, Girls and Infants mixed
Hopton Council	.....	2	Infants, Boys and Girls mixed
Nab School	.....	1	Boys and Girls mixed
St. Paul's, Eastthorpe	...	2	Infants and Girls
Christ Church	.....	1	Infants
Knowle St. Peter's	.....	1	Infants
Knowle Council	.....	2	Infants, Boys and Girls mixed
Lee Green	.....	2	Infants and Girls
Northorpe St. Luke's	.....	1	Infants
Crowlees	.....	1	Boys
Grammar School	.....	1	Boys and Girls mixed

All schools have good water supply, but lavatory accommodation should be improved. The same remarks apply as in previous reports with regard to the state of lavatory accommodation.

HOUSING.

1.	Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—						
(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	990					
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1857					
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	25					
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	130					
(3)	Number of Dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	6					
(4)	Number of Dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	19					
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:—						
	Number of defective Dwelling-Houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	129					
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—						
	(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936:—						
	(1) Number of Dwelling-Houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil					
	(2) Number of Dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice ...	Nil					
	(a) By Owners	Nil					
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil					
	(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—						
	(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil					
	(2) Number of Dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—						
	(a) By Owners	Nil					
	(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil					

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936:—			
(1) Number of Dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of Dwelling-houses Demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	Nil
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936:—			
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	Nil
4. Housing Act 1936:—Part IV. Overcrowding:—			
(a) (i) Number of Dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	71
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	71
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	352
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	Nil
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	90
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	567
(d) Particulars of any case in which Dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	Nil
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...	...	...

The arrangements for dealing with overcrowding are working satisfactorily.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

The amount of milk produced within the district is approximately 4,200 gallons per week at the present time, the bulk of this is retailed twice daily.

Number of cowkeepers producing milk	...	...	28
Number of cowkeepers producing and retailing milk			20
Retail purveyors only	...	...	20
Number of cowsheds	...	...	61
Number of cows	...	...	377

During the year the following defects have been remedied:—

Insufficient lighting	...	...	8
Insufficient ventilation	...	...	6
Defective Drainage	...	...	10
Interior reconstruction	...	...	4
Defective cowshed floors	...	...	4
New cowsheds erected	...	...	1

There are four farmers licensed by the West Riding County Council to produce and sell Accredited Milk, and one licensed to produce and sell Tuberculin Tested Milk, two retailers have supplementary licenses for the sale of Pasteurised Milk, and one to sell Accredited Milk. The whole of the schools in Mirfield are being supplied with Accredited Milk.

Twenty-four samples were taken during the year for evidence of dirt. All samples proved satisfactory.

The general cleanliness of the cowsheds, cows and dairies continues to be satisfactory.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The number of the slaughter houses in the district is now ten. Seven of these are registered and three licensed. On January 1st all these will be licensed under the Food and Drugs Act 1938.

Strict supervision is being exercised over the shops and slaughter houses within the district. Frequent visits have been paid during slaughtering hours.

The number of animals, carcases and organs inspected were:—

	Killed within the district	Killed outside the district but retailed within	Total inspected
Cattle ...	981	627	1,608
Calves ...	133	20	153
Sheep and Lambs	1,792	926	2,718
Pigs ...	1,239	1,053	2,292

The following meat has been found totally unfit for food, and seized and destroyed:—

Beef	...	...	1,615 lbs.
Mutton	...	...	26 lbs.
Pork	...	...	270 lbs.
Veal	...	...	40 lbs.
Offals	...	...	147 lbs.

	Cattle exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	743	238	133	1,792	1,239
Number Inspected	743	238	133	1,792	1,239
All diseases except tuberculosis					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases in which some part or organ was condemned	7	10	—	1	3
Percentage of the no. inspected affected with disease other than T.B. ...	0.94	4.16	—	—	3.61
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned	1	2	—	—	—
Carcases in which some part or organ was condemned	17	23	—	—	8
Percentage of the no. inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.42	10.51	—	—	1.80

Nine butchers buy their meat outside the district and three of these have stalls in the open market. Warnings in five cases have been issued for breaches of the Public Health (Clean Meat) Regulations, 1924, and were promptly complied with. Strict supervision is kept over all the meat brought into the district for sale in the open market.

During the year numbers of poor class animals killed in the district decreased considerably.

With regard to the inspection of other foods these are inspected on the various food premises, and the shops and stalls concerned.

SCAVENGING 1938-39.

Number of Privies cleansed	...	3,576
Number of Dry Ashpits cleansed		324
Number of Dust Bins emptied	...	186,108
Number of Tub Closets cleansed		1,872
Number of Trade Premises cleared		530

Approximate weight of refuse ... 4,160 tons 15 cwts.

Disposed of as follows:—

Taylor Hall Lane Tip	...	2,372
Shepley Bridge (Paper)	...	6
Total	...	2,378 loads

COLLECTING COSTS.

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Scavenger's Wages	...	899	2	9			
Driver's Wages	...	400	9	9			
Petrol	...	170	15	5			
Oil, Grease	...	22	5	11			
Establishment	...	46	12	9			
Repairs	...	46	5	1			
Depreciation over 7 years	...	114	5	8½			
Licenses	...	104	12	4			
Insurances	...	24	6	0			
					1,828	15	8½

DISPOSAL COSTS.

2,378 loads at Tipman's Wages	...	...	111	19	9½
			GROSS COST	...	£1,940 15 6

TO DEDUCT.	£	s	d
Trade Refuse	...	...	48 1 0
"No Claim" Insurance Bonus			
Hire of Lorry			
to other departments	...	114	14 8½
Petrol and Oil in stock	...	24	5 2
			189 17 6½
NETT COST	...	£1,750	17 11½

